

Positive Alternatives 2016 - 17 Quarterly Update

Grantee (Name and city): Chisago Life Care (DBA Options for Women Chisago Co)

Location: 6344 Elm Street, North Branch, MN 55056

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Goal: To provide positive alternatives to abortion to pregnant women and parenting men and women

For the period/quarter: October - December 2016 Quarter 2

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Hire grant staff Provide guidance to grant staff Attend required grant staff		Our Client Advocate has been given a new title of Director of Client Services because she has been directing all things client related and doing wonderfully. In addition we have hired a Director of Operations and Outreach. These two roles are fulfilling all duties required of an "Executive Director".	
Outreach	Oversight of web site update and redesign, marketing plan and advertising within the community. Strengthen relationship with existing community partners and identify new community partners in order to identify potential referral sources for clients and increase capacity of programming.		Website: Hired individual to complete web design update. New website design, photos and content have been approved effective 10/11/2016. The new website will launch in the first quarter of 2017. Marketing: We approved and launched another advertisement through a professional marketing company. Effective the 15th of January we have an advertisement running on the big screen at our local movie theater in North Branch to increase awareness of our facility and the services that we provide. This advertisement will be running for three months.	

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Case Management Services	Provide client follow up for outside and internal programs. Provide referrals and assistance with securing other outside support and social services.	20	We have a great rapport with the majority of our clients. They appreciate our support and nonjudgmental ear. They are happy to be referred and reminded of community resources that will benefit their families.	279
Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education	Provide practical and material assistance through crib distribution to qualifying clients through Cradle of Hope. Provide safe sleep education to all pregnant women. Provide referrals and assistance with securing other outside support and social services.	20	We distributed 1 pack n play with the help of Cradle of Hope. Our client was thrilled to receive this brand new item for her son. Several of our clients already had cribs and/or pack n plays for their babies so they did not need assistance in this area. A few others will be entering their 3 rd trimester soon and will be receiving their baby equipment and/or safe sleep education in the next quarter.	3
Employment and Education Assistance	Provide work station and resources for work placement and resources. Provide referrals of qualifying individuals to GED completion program and job counseling internship program	12	We have set up our computer work stations for client use toward the end of this quarter. We have a couple of clients that are enjoying the use of this new space. We expect that these numbers will continue to increase.	8
Fatherhood Program	Provide one on one mentoring for parenting men to support healthy life and family choices, provide practical support and referrals to assist with securing outside support and social services.	12	Unfortunately, we do not have any dads interested in participating in this program with our current case load. We continue to talk about it during outreach to draw new fathers in.	0

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Life-Skills Education Program	Provide one on one and group mentoring and workshops on topics to pregnant women and parenting men and women on life skills topics such as financial management, understanding credit scores, budget planning, etc. Provide referrals and assistance with securing other outside support and social services.	20	We encouraged our Earn While You Learn clients to take practical classes on various life skills topics which they found useful and informative.	23
Material Support/ Mentoring	Provide practical and material assistance to pregnant women and parenting men and women in the form of clothing, diapers and baby equipment. Provide women with information on, referral to and assistance with securing pregnancy and other material support and social services.	90	We assisted many clients and their children with diapers by the dozen, wipes and gently used clothing from our Baby Boutique. Our clients are so thankful to receive this materials assistance so that the funds they do have can be used for other important purposes. Many of our clients accept a monthly referral to Ruby's Pantry. They give each client a free grocery cart full of food. We are so thankful for this community partnership.	195
Mental Health	Provide one on one and group mentoring and workshops on topics to pregnant women and parenting men and women on parenting topics focusing on infants, toddlers and siblings. Provide referrals and assistance with securing other outside	6	In addition to our parenting education classes on mental health topics we have had larger participation in our exercise class offered to moms and their children this quarter. Weekly exercise definitely helps to improve mental health as well as the friendships formed within this group class.	17

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	support and social services.			
Mentoring Programs	Provide one on one and group mentoring and workshops on topics to pregnant women and parenting men and women on topics such as prenatal and postnatal infant development, healthy life choices, parenting support, practical life skills such as budgeting, meal planning and nutrition, smoking cessation classes. Provide referrals and assistance with securing other outside support and social services.	90	Each visit to our location is an opportunity to mentor our clients and encourage them to make positive life choices for both themselves and their children. It is a privilege to offer our clients practical education that will improve their quality of life.	64
Parenting Education	Provide one on one and group mentoring and workshops on topics to pregnant women and parenting men and women on parenting topics focusing on infants, toddlers and siblings. Provide referrals and assistance with securing other outside support and social services.	30	Our clients truly appreciate the parenting education classes that we offer. They report that they feel like better mothers because of them. They often comment that they wish they knew about our parent education program earlier or with their previous child. An increased awareness within our community along with our new marketing efforts will continue to help us maintain our goal in this area.	44
Pregnancy Testing	Pregnancy testing and counseling, client intake and provide program information. Provide women with information on, referral to and assistance with securing pregnancy support and social services.	20	We did not see very many women needing pregnancy tests this quarter. We expect our P.A. grant funded marketing efforts will increase the number of clients and pregnancy tests we do in the coming months.	7

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Provide Necessary Services to all clients	Provide intake assessment to determine need. Provide women with information on, referral to and assistance with securing pregnancy support and social services. Utilize resource database to provide information and make referrals.	24	This quarter we managed 21 individual cases that fit the grant limitations. The assessment process really is ongoing. As clients share their struggles at each weekly appointment we offer referrals and help them acquire resources to address their need. We are excited when we can locate a resource to assist a client's unique situation. This quarter we were pleased to provide referrals to an Anonymous Santa program and a free turkey dinner catered and delivered by our locals Lions group.	11
Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only	Provide intake assessment to determine need. Provide women with information on, referral to and assistance with securing pregnancy support services. Utilize resource database to provide information and make referrals	6	We worked with clients who did not live near our center or had children too old per the grant limitations. We offered referrals to centers closer to their home and let them know of county wide assistance and where to go for these helps. I had a couple of cases that were interested in our Earn While You Learn parenting education classes but have not come back after their initial assessment.	5

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	1
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	2

Challenges: Clients cancelling appointments due to illness has been a challenge this quarter. We may have overestimated our potential report counts in some areas.

Comments: Our report counts have increased from last quarter. We have confidence that our numbers will continue to increase now that even more marketing is underway. Our new website will launch very soon. Our outreach efforts will be expanding with our new hire. These pieces will increase community awareness for our center. Our new programs will also draw more clients. We are really excited about the work that the grant funds are allowing us to do as we strive to bring hope and positive alternatives to those in our community.